

## OPINION 1171

THE STEM OF THE GENERIC NAME *PETROMYZON*  
LINNAEUS, 1758 (PISCES) IS PETROMYZONT-

RULING.— (1) It is hereby ruled that the stem of the generic name *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758, for the purposes of Article 29 is PETROMYZONT-.

(2) The generic name *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758 (gender: masculine), type species, by subsequent designation by Jordan & Copeland, 1877, *Petromyzon marinus* Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2112.

(3) The specific name *marinus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Petromyzon marinus* (specific name of type species of *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2729.

(4) The family name PETROMYZONTIDAE Bonaparte, 1832 (type genus, *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758) is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Number 508.

## HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2045

An application for the determination of the correct spelling of the family name for the Holarctic lampreys — whether PETROMYZONIDAE or PETROMYZONTIDAE — was first received from Professor V.D. Vladykov (*University of Ottawa*) on 21 February 1973. After some correspondence, it was sent to the printer on 24 October 1973 and published on 28 June 1974 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 30, pp. 198-199. No use of the plenary powers was requested.

The late Dr Carl Hubbs (*Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 32, pp. 18-19) and Dr C.G. Gruchy (*National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa*) supported PETROMYZON- (*ibid.* pp. 19-20). Vladykov & Gruchy (*ibid.* pp. 154-155) asked for a ruling in that sense. Steyskal, however (*ibid.* p. 21) supported PETROMYZONT-, and Morrow (*ibid.* p. 200) showed that this is the correct form under the Code. Follett & Dempster (*Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 33, p. 142) and Robins (*ibid.* pp. 142-143) showed that usage strongly favours PETROMYZONT-. In addition, Follett & Dempster provided correct references for the subsequent designation of a types species for *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758 and for the family name itself.

### DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 9 April 1980 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1980)5 either for PETROMYZON- or for PETROMYZONT- as the stem of the family-group name based on *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758. It was pointed out that the adoption of the former would require a two-thirds majority vote, whereas the adoption of the latter required only a simple majority. At the close of the voting period on 9 July 1980 the state of the voting was as follows:

For PETROMYZON- four (4): Brinck, Trjapitzin, Habe, Nye

For PETROMYZONT- eighteen (18) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Vokes, Corliss, Willink, Mroczkowski, Bayer, Kraus, Hahn, Starobogatov, Sabrosky, Halvorsen, Alvarado, Binder, Cogger, Dupuis, Tortonese, Welch

No voting papers were returned by Heppel and Ride.

Professor Hahn pointed out that PETROMYZONT- is clearly supported by F.C. Werner in 'Wortelemente lateinisch-griechischer Fachausdrücke in den biologischen Wissenschaften'.

### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*marinus*, *Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 230

*Petromyzon* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 230

PETROMYZONTIDAE Bonaparte, 1832, Saggio d'una distribuzione metodica degli animali vertebrati a sangue freddo. *Giorn. Arcadica*, vol. 52, pp. 165, 189

### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on V.P.(80)5 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in Alternative B on that voting paper has been duly adopted, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1171.

R.V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

12 September 1980